Calamity management centre

†2115. SHRI P.K. MEHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government are considering to establish Calamity Management Centre in earthquake resistant building in each district of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when, this scheme is likely to be completed;

(d) whether Central Government are considering to prepare any trained force for management of calamity; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) The Central Government have advised the State Governments/UT Administrations to establish Emergency Operation Centres in all hazard proof buildings at State capitals and District Headquarters with a view to providing an effective disaster management communication network in the country. The construction designs and specifications for communication equipments have been sent to the State Governments/UT Administrations. The Emergency Operations Centres will monitor hazards, disseminate early warning and coordinate response when a disaster strikes. The State Government have been advised that the cost of construction and equipment for these Centres may also be met from the funds made available under the modernization of police forces schemes. The communication equipment can also be procured by the State Governments from the Calamity Relief Fund subject to the ceiling of 10% of annual inflows in the fund for search and rescue, evacuation and communication equipment. The State Governments have also been advised to set up Emergency Operation Centres on priority basis.

(d) and (e) A proposal has been initiated to set apart eight battalions from the existing strength of Central Para Military Forces to be trained and equipped for specialist response to natural and manmade disasters. The State Governments have also been advised to set up specialist response teams for responding to natural calamities.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.